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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 09/896,999 Confirmation No. 1156
Applicant : KEZUKA, Koichiro et al.
Filing Date : July 2, 2001
TC/A.U. : 1746
Examiner : WILLS, Monique M.
Title : BATTERY

Docket No. : 09792909.5106
Customer No. : 26263

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE
TO APRIL 15, 2004 FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

Responsive to the Office Action dated April 15, 2004, Applicant respectfully requests entry of the accompanying Request for Continued Examination and the following amendment:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 10 of this paper.